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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/539,430	03/30/2000	Ken Kishida	04329.2285	8141
22852	7590	03/23/2004		
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER LLP 1300 I STREET, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20005			EXAMINER LONG, HEATHER R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2615	

DATE MAILED: 03/23/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/539,430

Applicant(s)

KISHIDA ET AL.

Examiner

Heather R Long

Art Unit

2615

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 January 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 and 22-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 5-20, 22-24, and 27 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 25 and 26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06 January 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 and 22-27 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "31" has been used to designate both the speaker and the infrared port. This problem was fixed in Fig. 2, but not in Figs. 3A, 4, and 6.
3. The drawings are objected to because the reference character "78c" in Fig. 4 is used twice on two different objects and from the disclosure the one should be --76c--. The wrong "78c" was changed in Fig. 4; it should be one that is pointing to the main body-side adapter and not the one pointing to the camera-side adapter.

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the

applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Park (U.S. Patent 6,697,117).

Regarding claim **1**, Park discloses an electronic apparatus comprising: an apparatus main body (1) having a rear end portion provided with a pair of hinge portions (11 and 14), a camera attachment portion provided between the hinge portions, and a main body-side connector provided at the camera attachment portion (Figs. 2 and 3); a display (2) rotatably supported by the hinge portions (14 and 11); a camera provided at the camera attachment portion, for picking up an image of an object; and wherein the camera includes a base portion fitted to the camera attachment portion and having a camera-side connector connected to the main-body side connector, and a camera main body (3) having a lens (3a) and supported by the base portion so as to be rotatable about a central axis of the camera main body (3) substantially coaxial with a rotation axis of the display unit (2) (Figs. 1 and 4; col. 1, lines 38-67).

Regarding claim **25**, Park discloses an electronic apparatus comprising: an apparatus main body (1) having a rear end portion provided with a pair of hinge portions (11 and 14); a display unit (2) having a pair of leg portions that are rotatably supported by the hinge portions (Figs. 2 and 3), respectively; and a camera configured to pick up an image of an object, the camera being provided at the rear end of the apparatus main body between the pair of hinge portions (11

and 14) and being rotatable about a rotation axis of the display unit (2); and a camera shutter button provided at the apparatus main body (Figs. 1 and 4; col. 1, lines 38-67; col. 2, lines 34-39; col. 4, lines 16-20).

6. Claim 26 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Yoshida et al. (U.S. Patent 6,690,417).

Regarding claim **26**, Yoshida et al. discloses an electronic apparatus comprising: an apparatus main body (100); a display unit (107) supported by the apparatus main body (100) to be rotatable between an opened position and a closed position wherein the display unit overlaps with the apparatus main body (100); a camera configured to pick up an image of an object, the camera being provided at the apparatus at the apparatus main body (100) and having a lens (108) that is exposed to an outside of the apparatus main body; and a camera shutter (102) configured to actuate the camera while the display unit (107) is rotated to the closed position (col. 5, lines 24-60).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 2 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Park as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Suso et al. (U.S. Patent 6,069,648).

Regarding claim 2, Park discloses an electronic apparatus, wherein the camera comprises a substantially circular camera main body (3) having a lens (3a) provided on an outer periphery, and a base portion supporting the camera main body to be rotatable about the central axis of the camera main body (3), the camera main body (3) is substantially circular and rotatable about the central axis of the camera main body, and the camera is attached to the apparatus main body the camera attachment portion while the central axis of the camera main body is positioned substantially coaxial with the rotation axis of the display unit (2) (Fig. 1; col. 3, lines 13-28). However, Park fails to mention that the camera is substantially cylindrical.

Referring to the Suso et al. reference, Suso et al. discloses an electronic apparatus, wherein the camera is cylindrical in shape (col. 2, lines 59-65 and Figs. 1a-1c).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teachings of Suso et al. with Park to provide a camera that is cylindrical in shape in order to overcome the shortcomings of Park's invention of limiting the rotation of the camera housing when the display unit is closed. Park's invention is limited by the positioning of the semicircular grooves (col. 3, lines 10-12).

Regarding claim 4, Park discloses an electronic apparatus, wherein the camera is rotatable between a position at which the camera faces a front side of the apparatus main body and a position at which the camera faces a rear side of the apparatus main body, in a range of about 180 degrees (col. 3, lines 13-28). However, Park fails to disclose that the electronic apparatus has a detection switch detecting that the camera has been rotated toward a predetermined rotation position; and the apparatus main body has a control section for turning image data picked up by the camera upside down in accordance with the detection of the detection switch.

Referring to the Suso et al. reference, Suso et al. discloses in Figs. 5b and 8b an electronic apparatus, wherein the camera is rotatable between a position at which the camera faces a front side of the apparatus main body and a position at which the camera faces a rear side of the apparatus main body, in a range of about 180 degrees, and has a detection switch detecting that the camera has been rotated toward a predetermined rotation position; and the apparatus main body has a control section for turning the image data picked up by the camera upside down in accordance with the detection of the detection switch (col. 7, lines 23-36).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teachings of Suso et al. with Park to provide Park with an electronic device that would not have to be

turned upside to take a picture of an object on the other side of the device in order for the camera to output an upright picture of the object.

9. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Park (U.S. Patent 6,697,117).

Regarding claim 3, Park discloses an electronic apparatus, wherein the apparatus main body includes an upper surface portion provided with a keyboard (1a) and an independent shutter button provided on the upper surface (col. 2, lines 34-39; col. 4, lines 16-20). Claim 3 differs from Park in that the claim further requires an electronic apparatus, wherein the independent shutter button is provided. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the shutter button in Park by putting it on the upper surface portion between the keyboard and the hinge portions so as to allow easier access to the shutter button by placing all the keys on the main body.

Allowable Subject Matter

10. Claims 5-19, 20, 22-24, and 27 are allowed.
11. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Prior art fails to teach or suggest an electronic apparatus system comprising:
- a. A camera attachment portion provided between the hinge portions, and a main body-side connector provided at the camera attachment portion; and a camera detachably provided at the camera attachment portion, the camera

including a base portion fitted to the camera attachment portion, a camera-side connector connected to the main-body side connector (claim 5).

b. A remote controller detachably connected to the apparatus main body, for remote-controlling the electronic apparatus, the remote controller including an extended end detachably connected to the apparatus main body, a controller main body having a plurality of operation dials for selecting and determining operation functions and operation modes of the electronic apparatus, a connection cable extending from the controller main body, and a display section displaying an item selected and determined by the plurality of operation dials (claim 20).

c. A camera detachably provided at a central position of a rear end of the apparatus main body and positioned between the pair of hinge portions, the camera having a camera-side shutter button arranged at a position at which the camera-side shutter button is concealed in the apparatus main body when the camera is attached to the apparatus main body; and an extension adapter for connecting the camera detached from the apparatus main body to the apparatus main body, and arranging the camera to be remote from the apparatus main body (claim 23).

d. An apparatus main body having a rear end portion provided with a pair of hinge portions, a camera attachment portion provided between the hinge portions; and wherein the camera includes a base portion detachably fitted to the camera attachment portion and having a camera-side connector that is

connected to the main-body side connector, and a camera main body having a lens and supported by the base portion to be rotatable about a central axis of the camera main body substantially coaxial with a rotation axis of the display unit (claim 24).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

12. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Heather R Long whose telephone number is 703-305-0681. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Thurs.: 7:00 am - 4:30 pm, and every other Fri.: 7:00 am - 3:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Christensen can be reached on (703) 308-9644. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

HRL
March 16, 2004


NGOC YEN VU
PRIMARY EXAMINER